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CLAIMS

A food product comprising a bird having its legs bound together by a truss, the truss being applied above the hocks of the bird such that the hocks are crossed and the legs are held together against the breast of the bird with the hocks in proximal but spaced relation to the tail of the bird, the truss being formed of edible collagen material and being maintained in close contact throughout its length with the moist surface of the bird.

- 2. A food product as claimed in claim 1, wherein the truss is formed from an edible material comprising collagen and cellulose.
- 3. A food product as claimed in either preceding claim wherein the truss is formed from flattened tubular casing.
- 4. A food product as claimed in claim 3, wherein the flattened tubular casing is slit to form films or ribbons which are subsequently twisted, folded or plaited.
- 5. A food product as claimed in claim 4, wherein the film or ribbon is twisted to provide between 15 and 110 twists per metre.
- 6. A food product as claimed in claim 5, wherein the twisted film or ribbon has between 15 and 50 twists per metre and a composition comprising 3 parts collagen, 2 parts glycerol, 2 parts water and 1 part cellulose.

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7. A food product as claimed in claim 5, wherein the twisted film or ribbon has between 75 and 110 twists perm metre and a composition comprising 5 parts collagen, 2 parts glycerol, 2 parts water and 1 part cellulose.

A method of trussing the legs of a bird together to form a food product, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning the legs of the bird close against the breast of the bird,

arranging the hocks of the bird in a crossed configuration,

applying a truss formed of an edible collagen material above the hocks of the bird such that the hocks are held together against the breast of the bird and in proximal but spaced relation to the tail of the bird and the truss is maintained in close contact throughout its length with the moist surface of the bird.